



COOK COUNTY HEALTH

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REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MARCH 29, 2019

Employee Recognition

Alice Cameron, Esther Joo, Freddie Shufford, Jacqueline Boone and Mildred Williamson – Congratulations to the Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center team who received an award from the AIDS Foundation of Chicago at their annual meeting for 20 years of partnership and setting the pace to advance health equity and justice in Illinois. The CORE Center was established as a partnership between Cook County Health and Rush University Medical Center two decades ago. Since it opened its doors in 1998, the CORE Center has remained one of the largest providers of HIV/AIDS care in the U.S.

Congratulations to this year's Doctor of the Year, **Dr. Irene Aluen Metzner**. Dr. Aluen Metzner is a member of Cook County Health's divisions of general internal medicine and postgraduate medicine in the department of medicine. In addition to being a remarkable clinician, has been a tireless advocate for our patients and residents throughout her 14 years here. She has been involved with quality improvement efforts and has always demonstrated excellence in teaching and patient care.

Dr. Aluen Metzner works at Logan Square and is also the director of our primary care residency program, overseeing the work and curriculum of 12 residents. She is a member of various task groups, even those outside the scope of her practice, to ensure Cook County Health patients are receiving the highest level of care throughout the organization. Dr. Aluen Metzner has also worked to improve the lives of her colleagues. She spearheaded the physician wellness committee and co-leads the Schwartz Rounds, which provides staff with an opportunity to focus on the human dimension of medicine.

Even with everything she has accomplished as a physician, she would say her proudest accomplishment is being a mother to her 12-year-old daughter, Christie, who she admires more than anyone else.

Activities and Announcements

- On Friday, April 12, 2019 at 10:00AM, CCH will hold an official **Ribbon Cutting** at the new Arlington Heights Health Center. Following the ribbon cutting, an open house will be held for the community until noon.
- **Chicago Healthcare System Coalition for Preparedness & Response (CHSCPR) Annual Full-Scale Exercise** will take place on May 2, 2019. The scope of this exercise will focus on CCH's role in response to major incident. This year's scenario encompasses impacts and considerations associated with a multi-hospital evacuation triggered by an imminent threat. All CCH facilities will participate in the drill. The Hospital Incident Command System will be activated for the duration of the drill.

- Leadership has shared several of the **strategic planning** presentations at various CCH leadership groups and received good feedback. The **employee and community town hall meetings** have been scheduled as follows:

April 30, 2019: Stroger Hospital
4pm - Employee Town Hall
6pm - Community Town Hall

May 2, 2019: Provident Hospital
4pm - Employee Town Hall
6pm - Community Town Hall

May 7, 2019: Cicero Community Center
6pm - Community Town Hall

May 9, 2019: Oak Forest Health Center
4pm – Employee Town Hall
6pm – Community Town Hall

- **The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has awarded \$4,870,000** to Cook County Health in grant funding over five years through its Healthy Start Initiative: **Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health** (known as Healthy Start) for the Cook County Healthy Start Initiative project to improve pregnancy outcomes and reduce infant mortality. The aim of the project is to help eliminate perinatal health disparities in Cook County, Illinois by providing case management support for African American women aged 20-35 at risk for poor birth outcomes, along with their infants and father/partners, served across sites by CCH.

- **Food As Medicine Update**

Through March 21, **CCH's Fresh Truck partnership** with the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) has resulted in 169 visits to 13 CCH health centers – Austin, Cicero, the CORE Center, Cottage Grove, Englewood, Logan Square, Near South, Oak Forest, Prieto, Robbins, Woodlawn, and Provident/Sengstacke. The inaugural Fresh Truck visit to CCH's new Arlington Heights Health Center took place on March 21. The Fresh Trucks have now been deployed at all CCH community sites.

Collectively, the Fresh Truck distributions have resulted in the provision of fresh fruits and vegetables to 21,790 individuals, representing 71,975 household members, totaling more than 455,000 pounds of fresh produce. Most of the individuals benefiting from the Fresh Truck screened positive for food insecurity at a CCH health center visit.

CCH Fresh Markets provide additional resources to patients in the south suburbs. Fresh produce is supplied by Black Oaks Center, a nonprofit that seeks to create a just, holistic, and local food system through education, entrepreneurship, and access to healthy, affordable foods. CCH partners with Experimental Station's Link Up Illinois Link Match program to offer SNAP users with a match on all purchases at CCHHS Fresh Markets, up to \$20/market/week. The Fresh Market schedule includes:

Oak Forest Health Center on Wednesdays, 9am-2pm
Robbins Health Center on Thursdays, 11am-3pm
Cottage Grove Health Center on Fridays, 9am-2pm

IMPACT 2020 Objectives 1.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.4

(Select materials and media clips attached)

Legislative Update

State

- More than 6,600 bills and resolutions have been filed in the House and Senate. The deadline for substantive bills to move out of committee is March 29.
- Governor Pritzker has named Robert Muriel as the Director of the Illinois Department of Insurance (DOI). Director Muriel is a civil and commercial lawyer with more than 20 years of experience. He was formerly President of the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois and has served on the Board of Directors for the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago and Almost Home Kids. His appointment requires Senate confirmation.
- The Governor unveiled his proposal for a fair tax system. Illinois currently imposes a 4.95% flat income tax rate.

Governor Pritzker's plan proposes dropping the personal tax rate for the first \$10,000 of income for single and joint filers to 4.75%; income above \$10,000 to \$100,000 would be taxed at 4.9%; income above \$100,000 to \$250,000 would be taxed at 4.95%; income above \$250,000 to \$500,000 would be taxed at 7.75%; income above \$500,000 to \$1M would be taxed at 7.85%; and those earning more than \$1M would be taxed at 7.95%.

The legislature is expected to debate this proposal through the remainder of the spring session. The earliest a graduated income tax could take effect would be in 2021.

- Earlier this month, the House and Senate passed [HB345](#), which seeks to increase the age to purchase tobacco, e-cigarettes, and other nicotine products from 18 to 21 years of age. The House passed the bill by a vote of 82-31-0 with 5 members not voting, and the Senate passed the bill by a vote of 39-16-1. Representative Camille Lilly (D-Oak Park) served as the chief sponsor in the House and Senator Julie Morrison (D-Deerfield) served as the chief sponsor in the Senate. The bill now heads to the Governor's desk. If he signs it, the law would take effect July 1, 2019. Earlier this year, Tobacco 21 was passed by the Cook County Board of Commissioners covering unincorporated Cook County.

Federal

- Congress emerged from the shut-down crisis in mid-February and over the past four weeks has begun to take up its legislative and oversight responsibilities, although with a sense of urgency since everything is starting about six weeks later than normal. The President's budget was released on March 11, marking the official beginning of the budget and appropriations process. The outlook for passing all twelve bills before the end of the fiscal year September 30, is clouded by the fact that Congress has yet to agree to a deal to lift the statutory discretionary spending caps, avoid sequestration and proceed with the appropriations process. Additionally, the debt ceiling expired on March 2, though the U.S. Department of the Treasury can continue to meet obligations using "extraordinary measures" until late September or early October 2019. All point to major negotiations in September.
- **Budget and Appropriations** – The White House submitted the President's FY 2020 budget request to Congress on March 11. In addition to proposing sweeping cuts to health programs in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, it made the following proposals:

Repeal and Replace: The budget calls for Congress to pass legislation similar to the September 2017 Graham-Cassidy bill, which would repeal the ACA Medicaid expansion, make states choose a Medicaid per capita cap or a Medicaid block grant, and replace the expansion and the ACA subsidies with grants to states to support state-based coverage programs.

Medicaid DSH cuts: The budget calls for legislation to extend the Medicaid DSH cuts, arguing that legislation like Graham-Cassidy would provide states with grants to extend coverage to those formerly covered under the ACA.

HIV/AIDS Initiative: The budget proposes \$120 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to deliver additional care and treatment for people living with HIV through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and to expand prevention and treatment through the Health Centers program. The domestic increases are offset by steep cuts to international HIV/AIDS spending.

- \$140 million in new funding for CDC to improve diagnosis and testing/connect patients to treatment, provide PrEP to at risk individuals
- \$70 million in new funding for Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program
- \$50 million in funding for the HRSA to expand services in community health center
- \$25 million in new funding for Indian Health Service (U.S. Department of the Interior) for HIV screening, Hep C prevention

While a divided Congress will not advance the President's "repeal and replace" agenda and there is bipartisan interest in funding public health programs at levels higher than proposed in the budget, the budget is an important statement of policy objectives and an indication of what the Administration would aim to do if it had the votes in Congress.

House and Senate committees are currently holding hearings to question Administration officials on the details of their agencies' budget requests and collecting input from constituents and stakeholders. If a deal to lift the budget caps does not come together soon, the appropriations subcommittees will begin to work with this year's appropriated amounts as a baseline.

- **Medicaid** – The Administration continues to work to bend Medicaid consistent with longstanding conservative proposals. On March 15, CMS approved Ohio's request for an 1115 waiver to impose work requirements on non-elderly adults, the latest in a string of approvals, even while the earlier Arkansas and Kentucky waivers are being actively litigated. In addition, published reports continue to emerge of CMS working quietly with conservative-led states to propose a waiver to convert their Medicaid programs to a block grant or a per capita capped system. When and if any of those waivers are granted, they will certainly be challenged in court as exceeding the Administration's waiver authority and running counter to the purposes of the Medicaid program.

On March 15, the Medicaid and CHIP Payment Advisory Committee (MACPAC) released its March 2019 report to Congress. MACPAC recommends easing the scheduled statutory cuts to Medicaid DSH by (1) phasing in the cuts over a longer period of time, (2) applying the cuts to states with unspent DSH allotments first and (3) reforming the DSH allocation methodology to gradually align DSH allocations to reflect the non-elderly low income population in a state. Congress is under no obligation to accept MACPAC recommendations, but they are generally influential. Current conversations on the Hill suggest that a DSH cut delay could move in the late summer or early fall as part of a larger health extenders package, perhaps in conjunction with other health related legislation, like a bill to address prescription drug costs.

- **Gun Control** – On February 27 the House passed H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, which would set up new background check requirements for firearm transfers between private parties. It would prohibit a transfer between private parties unless a licensed gun dealer, manufacturer, or importer first takes possession of the firearm to conduct a background check. Senate leadership will not take up the bill.

Protection of Medicaid remains a key priority for CCHHS at both the State and Federal level.

Community Outreach

- April 3 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at **Malcolm X College Service Days**, hosted by the **Wellness Center of Malcolm X College** at the school located at 1900 W. Jackson Boulevard in Chicago. This event for the students and community will provides services such as health insurance enrollment, counseling, mental health support services and nutrition education, to name a few. The HIV testing team from the **Austin Health Center CDC** will do HIV tests at this event.
- April 4 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Cook County Department of Public Health's Annual School Health Conference** titled "**Better Health: The Foundation of Education**" which will take place at Moraine Valley Community College located at 9000 College Street in Palos Hills. CCDPH and other public health, nursing and school health experts will provide updates related to mental health resources, chronic illness and disease prevention, outbreaks and emergency preparedness.
- April 4 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church's Senior Expo 2019** which takes place at the church located at 754 E. 77th Street in Chicago. The expo is open to seniors, age 62 and over and offers information/educational materials, demonstration or service for attendees. The event will also offer varies health screenings, including blood pressure screening, glucose and cholesterol screenings.
- April 4 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Wilbur Wright College Disability Awareness Day and Diversity Fair**, hosted by **City Colleges of Chicago's Wright College**, at the northwest campus located at 4300 North Narraganset Avenue in Chicago. The goal of the event is to connect students and community members with disabilities with Wilbur Wright College and external services that support their educational, social, employment, housing, financial and overall well-being.
- April 6 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Posen-Robbins School District 143.5 Health & Wellness Fair** which takes place at the Thomas J. Kellar Middle School located at 14123 Lydia Avenue in Robbins. This event promotes health in the community and informs parents and students about local resources.
- April 6 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **National Kidney Foundation of Illinois' Living with Kidney Disease and Transplantation Seminars**, which will take place at Oakton Community College located at 1600 E. Golf Road in Des Plaines. Throughout the year, the NKFI organizes a calendar of free, educational seminars focused on connecting patients and caregivers with resources and information.
- April 6 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Hanover Park Community Health & Resource Fair**, hosted by **Mayor Rodney Craig's and the Hope Coalition** at the Hanover Park-Park District located at 1919 Walnut Avenue in Hanover Park. Our CCH team will specially promote the **new Arlington Heights Health Center**, which is located not too far away from this area.
- April 6 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Grupo Salto Conference**, hosted by the **Arc of Illinois' Grupo Salto** at the Hope Learning Academy of Chicago located at 1628 W. Washington Boulevard in Chicago. This conference brings together Spanish-speaking people with disabilities and provides them with the opportunity to update, inform, celebrate our achievements, and remind us to recharge our commitment to continue empowering families and others on behalf of people with different abilities.
- April 10 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Week of the Young Child (WOYC) Community Expo** sponsored by the **National Association for the Education of Young Children/Forest View Educational Center** at the Forest View Educational Center Field House located at 2121 S. Goebbert Road

in Arlington Heights. Staff from CCH's **Arlington Heights Health Center** will participate to promote its pediatric and family medicine initiatives to attendees.

- April 10 Cook County Health promotion at the **Marillac St. Vincent Family Services - Marillac Social Center Pantry and Resource Fair** which is sponsored by the Marillac Social Center and takes place at the Center located at 212 S. Francisco in Chicago.
- April 11 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Week of the Young Child 2019 Community Resource Fair** sponsored by **All Our Kids Early Childhood Network** at the Cicero Community Center located at 2250 S. 49th Avenue in Cicero. Staff from the **Cicero Health Center** will attend to promote their pediatric, family medicine and OB services to attendees.
- April 11 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Enlace Chicago Health and Resource Fair** which will take place at the Little Village Lawndale High School located at 3120 S. Kostner Avenue in Chicago. **Enlace Chicago** is partnering with schools in the Little Village community to offer health and resource fairs throughout the community. These health and resource fairs will feature various area agencies and community partners offering health testing, health information and much more.
- April 12-14 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Black Women's Expo** at McCormick Place located at 2301 S. Lake Shore Dr. in Chicago. Over 25,000 people attend this 3-day event and competing health plans and hospitals systems will be exhibiting at the Expo. Black Women's Expo aims to educate, engage, and enlightened women of color in a number of business, community, and health resources. Staff from the Englewood, Near South, Provident, Stroger and Woodlawn have volunteered to represent us at this event. In addition, on Saturday, April 13, **Dr. Claudia Fegan** will lead a round-table discussion on Men's Health with panelists **Dr. Arnold Turner, Dr. Courtney Holloway and Dr. Brian Humphrey**.
- April 13 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **District 130 Family Wellness Fair** sponsored by the **Cook County School District 130 in partnership with Blue Island/Robbins Neighborhood Network** which takes place at the Veteran's Memorial Middle School located at 12320 S. Greenwood Avenue in Blue Island. This event promotes health in the community and informs parents and students about local resources.
- April 13 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Midlothian School District 143 Annual Family Resource Fair** which takes place at the Central Park School located at 3621 W. 151st Street in Midlothian. This event promotes health in the community and informs parents and students about local resources.
- April 13 Cook County Health promotion at **Congresswoman Robin Kelly's 6th Annual Youth Job Expo** which will take place at Rich South High School located at 5000 Sauk Trail in Richton Park.
- April 15 Cook County Health promotion at the **Marillac St. Vincent Family Services - Marillac Social Center Pantry and Resource Fair** which is sponsored by the Marillac Social Center and takes place at the Center located at 212 S. Francisco in Chicago.
- April 16 Cook County Health promotion at the **17th Legislative District Community Job Fair**, hosted by **State Senator Elgie Sims, Cook County Commissioner Stanley Moore, and State Representative Justin Slaughter** at the Chicago State University Emil & Patricia Jones Convocation Center located at 9501 S. King Drive in Chicago.
- April 18 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Peer Plus Health Fair** which will take place at the Martin Luther King Community Center located at 4314 S. Cottage Grove in Chicago.

- April 27 CCHHS' Provident Hospital and Sengstacke Health Center host the annual **4 Men Only Health and Wellness Fair** which provides health screening including eye, blood pressure, HIV and Hep C tests, to over 400 men who attend the event. This year marks the 23rd anniversary of this successful event. The event takes place at Provident Hospital located at 500 E. 51st Street in Chicago.
- April 27 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **National Kidney Foundation of Illinois' Living with Kidney Disease and Transplantation Seminars**, which will take place at Harry S. Truman College located at 1145 W. Wilson Avenue in Chicago. Throughout the year, the NKFI organizes a calendar of free, educational seminars focused on connecting patients and caregivers with resources and information.
- April 27 CountyCare promotion at the **Beloved Community Health Center's Family Wellness Health Fair "Wellness Rocks"** which will take place at the Robbins Resource Center located at 13800 S. Trumbull Avenue in Robbins.
- April 27 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Día del Niño Celebration** which is hosted by **Presence Behavior Health Centro de Salud Familiar, Westlake Hospital, Family Focus Nuestra Familia and School District 89** at Melrose Park Civic Center located at 1000 N. 25th Avenue in Melrose Park. The Day of the Child Celebration features raffles, piñatas and prizes. Health tests to measure glucose, cholesterol, blood pressure check, prostate cancer and Body Mass Index will be available as well as free services including haircuts, development evaluations, exercise sessions, depression tests and mental health information.
- April 27 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **Buehler YMCA Healthy Kids Day**, sponsored by YMCA Metro Chicago, which will take place at the facility located at 1400 W. Northwest Highway in Palatine. Staff from CCH's **Arlington Heights Health Center** will participate to promote its pediatric and family medicine initiatives to attendees.
- April 27 Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the **West Park Academy Health and Resource Fair**, sponsored by the **Sinai Health Institute**, and which will take place at West Park Academy located at 1425 South Tripp in Chicago.

The Fresh Food Truck visits for the month of April include the following ACHN Health Centers.

- April 2 – **Cicero Health Center** – 5912 W. Cermak Road, Cicero, IL 60804
- April 4 – **Austin Health Center** - 4800 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60651
- April 9 – **Cottage Grove Health Center** - 1645 Cottage Grove Avenue, Ford Heights, IL 60411
- April 16 - **Robbins Health Center** - 13450 S. Kedzie Avenue, Robbins, IL 60472
- April 18 – **Englewood Health Center** - 1135 W. 69th Street, Chicago, IL 60621
- April 18 – **Near South Health Center** – 3525 S. Michigan, Chicago, IL 60653